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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3505**

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The Honorable John F. Kerry  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

As we both know, families are the foundation for a strong community and important for providing children with a bright future. Fortunately, in the United States many families open up their hearts and homes and adopt children, from our nation and around the globe, who otherwise would remain orphans and never know the true love a family can provide.

That is why I was extremely disappointed in Russia's actions to ban the adoption of Russian children by American citizens. This ban is unjust, as tens of thousands of Russian children have been adopted into safe and loving homes by American families. Furthermore, many of these families were in the final stages of the adoption process before the ban and had traveled to Russia to spend time with the children that were to be part of their hearts and lives. I have met with families from my district who were in this final stage, and want nothing more than to provide a loving home and promising future for a young child.

These families need your help, and I ask that you please work with President Putin and the Russian Federal Assembly to ensure the reversal of this ban. I thank you for your time and appreciate your attention on this important issue.

Respectfully,



Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress